

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	)	
	)	
Inventor(s): Andrew Stuart OVEREND et al.	)	Confirmation No. 8293
	)	
Appln. No.: 10/576,766	)	Group Art Unit: 1796
	)	
Filed: November 13, 2006	)	Examiner: Berman, S.W.
	)	
Title: RADIATION-CURABLE INKS	)	

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15, 17 and 18 are pending for consideration. Of these claims, claims 13, 14 and 18 are indicated to be allowable except for their dependence on a rejected claim (claim 1)

The Examiner has made the following rejections under Section 103(a):

- (1) claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 15 and 17 are rejected as unpatentable over the combination of WO 03/027162 (WO '162) in view of Ikeda et al. (6,417,283); and
- (2) claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 15 and 17 are rejected as unpatentable over WO 03/027162 in view of Nagai WO 02/102906 (U.S. 7,278,726 being relied on for the disclosure of WO 02/102906, WO '906).

In making rejection (1), the Examiner notes that WO '162 does not mention the acid value or pH of the pigment employed. However, the Examiner takes the position that "It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to employ the grafted carbon black having a pH less than 7 disclosed by Ikeda et al as the pigment in the compositions taught by WO '162. WO '162 provides motivation by teaching carbon black pigments for the disclosed ink jet inks. Ikeda et al provide